APPENDIX

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ALA MIDWINTER MEETING
Chicago, Ill., January 23-29, 1972

INFORMAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Executive Board of ALA sponsored an informal membership information meeting on Tuesday evening, January 25, for the purpose of presenting a detailed report on the Association's financial situation.

Robert R. McClarren, ALA Treasurer, listed the sources of income available to the Association: (1) a fixed rate of return from the Carnegie Endowment Fund and the General Endowment (the investments of life membership payments); (2) the income from the Carnegie Fund, which is designated for book lists; and (3) and most important, membership dues.

Since the last increase in membership rates, the number of both personal and organizational members has dropped, but the total funds derived from dues have increased. Because of the pressure for new programs and services, however, expenditures have more than kept pace. The endowments (which amounted to $3,025,000 as of November 30, 1971) can, in a broad sense, be considered as a reserve, but the Association has never provided for a contingency fund in its budget. Thus, it became necessary in 1971 to use money from the endowments to meet the operating needs of the Association. In order to retrench, staff vacancies have not been filled. Present staff members are also foregoing the step increases due them this year so that it will not be necessary to make further reductions in the staff.

The discussion portion of the program produced various comments, criticisms, and suggestions, including one urging the use of market research to increase the membership of the Association. It was estimated that only about 30 percent of librarians in the United States are members of ALA. [*Nathan R. Einhorn*]

THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM

Departing from its customary policy at Midwinter meetings, ALA presented a President's Program on January 26 on the theme of International Book Year (IBY). Robert Vosper, Librarian of the University of California at Los Angeles, who planned the Program, opened the evening with a brief statement on the current relationship between Unesco and the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA). Mr. Vosper reported that, contrary to recently published accounts, Unesco has not withdrawn its support of IFLA, which is now investigating policies of certain of its constituent associations in Rhodesia and the Republic of South Africa with respect to apartheid. Mr. Vosper then read a telegram from President Nixon congratulating the Association on its accomplishments of the past 100 years, following which Mr. Vosper moved on to the theme of the program by introducing the Master of Ceremonies, Theodore Waller, Co-Chairman of the ad hoc U.S. Committee for International Book Year, 1972. Mr. Waller spoke briefly of IBY and its "cornerstone," the "Charter of the Book," which he called a "landmark document of great importance to the American Library Association and its members" and of special significance with respect to the free flow of materials and copyright legislation. Mr. Waller anticipates as the climax of IBY a U.S. sponsored world conference involving planners in the fields of economic development, communications media, and education.

Chief S. O. Adebo, the first speaker of the evening, characterized himself as a representative of a developing country and a life-long reading addict. Chief Adebo, formerly Nigerian Ambassador to the United Nations and now Executive Director of the U.N. Institute for Training and Research, focused primarily upon the importance of the book in the developing world. Just as poverty in the United States is not to be compared with poverty in most developing countries, so the shortage of books in the United States is not comparable to the shortage of books in Africa, Asia, and much of Latin America. Freedom to read has little meaning to those who have no books to read. Chief Adebo urged that attention be paid not only to the problems of quantity but of quality as well. Production of publications within the countries themselves must be encouraged; in this context he referred to the important role played by Franklin Books in Africa and elsewhere. Chief Adebo stressed, however, that no country in the world should aim toward self-sufficiency in book production. "International communion in the exchange of books is as

important to the developed world as to the undeveloped world."

The Honorable Alan K. Rothnie, Consul General of Great Britain in Chicago, followed Chief Adebo as second speaker of the evening, describing the efforts of his government in promoting indigenous publishing at the same time it is making British educational books available through subsidy. Mr. Rothnie spoke of the reorganization of library service in Britain, describing such service as an integral part of the educational and social structure of a modern state.

As moderator of a panel discussion, Thomas Buckman, President of the Foundation Center in New York City, provided an illuminating transition from international to national aspects of IBY. Mr. Buckman reminded his audience of the community of social problems which Americans share with other cultures, denying that national and international demands for creative solutions are necessarily competitive. He added that International Book Year should reawaken an awareness that we live in one world, in which peoples have a responsibility to each other which transcends national borders.

The first panel member, Carol M. Owens, Executive Secretary of the U.S. Government Advisory Committee on Book and Library Programs, suggested that International Book Year might better have been expressed as Year of the Book, Internationally. Miss Owens, seconding Mr. Buckman, affirmed that Americans have a great deal to gain through support of IBY as enlightened self-interest. She spoke of specific programs under consideration, such as establishment of sister-library agreements involving the possible exchange of personnel.

Robert Koester and David Michener, formerly with the U.S. Peace Corps in Africa and now members of the Africana Division at Northwestern University Library, spoke of their efforts to provide rural students with books and minimal library service, and on the difficulties of providing a meaningful educational experience with only a handful of outdated, inappropriate textbooks.

Esther J. Walls, Director of the U.S. IBY Secretariat, enthusiastically described her work in promoting individual and institutional participation in IBY. A Handbook, a bi-monthly newsletter, and a calendar of events are now available from the Director of the U.S. IBY Secretariat, National Book Committee, Inc., 1 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016. Miss Walls said that librarians, already committed to IBY in a professional sense, now have an opportunity—and an obligation—to give concrete expression to that commitment.

Ralph Newman, President of the Chicago Public Library Board of Trustees and a prominent Chicago book dealer, as final speaker on the panel cautioned against approaching IBY as an opportunity for mutual admiration and self-congratulation. He described IBY as a way of calling attention to the world of books and to the necessity of educating, training, and leading newcomers into that world. Mr. Newman stressed the importance of innovation, and forcefully urged all American librarians to "think anew and act anew". [*Frank M. McGowan*]

NPAC REPORTS

On Monday evening January 24, more than 80 librarians assembled to hear informal reports on the current status of the National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging (NPAC). Edmond L. Applebaum, Assistant Director for Acquisitions and Overseas Operations of the Processing Department, Library of Congress, briefly reviewed the highlights of the last six months.

Dale Bentz, University Librarian of the University of Iowa Libraries, described their "Bibliographic Search Operation," which is designed to match their current receipts with LC cataloging found either in the NPAC depository card file arranged by main entry or in their microfiche service of LC catalog data arranged by LC card number with a title index. Of the 25,354 titles processed for cataloging by Iowa during the first six months of 1971, 18,522 (73 percent) were matched with LC cards in the NPAC depository file, an additional 4,742 titles (20 percent) were located in a microfiche LC card file, and 2,089 (seven percent) were originally cataloged.

Franklyn Bright, Chief of the Technical Services Division at the University of Wisconsin Memorial Library, explained their "Deferred Search Program," an experimental program conducted first for domestic titles and later to be expanded to include NPAC imprints as well. NPAC depository cards are arranged by title and an interim receipt or order slip is filed in the depository file if it is not matched immediately with the appropriate LC card. Actual searching of the books is deferred for six months. Experience has shown that approximately 50 percent are matched upon receipt of the books, an additional 25 percent are matched within six months as newly received depository cards are filed in the set, and approximately 12.5 percent of the books can be located when the remaining books are searched for the first time after six months, resulting in LC catalog avail-

ability in the depository file within six months for at least 87.5 percent of their current receipts. Additional searching of the remaining titles in other sources of LC catalog data has resulted in bringing the total match rate to 94.4 percent.

Mr. Applebaum closed the meeting with thanks to the two speakers and to the NPAC libraries who send regular reports on the availability of LC cataloging. He invited librarians from other participating libraries to speak at future NPAC meetings.

[*Edmond L. Applebaum*]

PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EMPLOYMENT OF THE HANDICAPPED: LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Making reading more comfortable for all handicapped persons and encouraging more returning Vietnam veterans to use the services of their local public libraries were the major concerns of the Library Committee of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, which met concurrently with the Midwinter Meeting of ALA, on January 24.

The Committee will cosponsor a program with the Round Table on Library Service to the Blind and several ALA Divisions at the Annual Conference. Cooperating in the program will be the American Optometric Association. The session will include a demonstration of a number of optical aids which have been developed to make reading easier for handicapped persons. These devices enhance the capacity of persons with some useful vision to meet their career, educational, and recreational reading requirements and could be made available in any library.

Robert S. Bray, Chairman of the Library Committee of the President's Committee and Chief of the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, said that this program will—for the first time—bring optometrists and librarians together so that optometrists can learn what librarians can do to help promote the use of the aids, and librarians can learn what kinds of aids are available and can receive technical guidance from optometrists.

The Library Committee voted to ask all public libraries to work with the Veterans' Administration and offices of their State employment services, veterans organizations, State and local veterans employment representatives to encourage all returning Vietnam-era veterans—especially disabled veterans—to get and use library cards.

A program of this type is already in operation in Akron, Ohio, at the request of the Library Committee, in which the public library works closely with the Akron Office of the Bureau of Employment Security. The Bureau fills out an application for library privileges for the veteran and urges him to go to the library to get a library card. [*Robert S. Bray*]

ROUND TABLE ON LIBRARY SERVICE TO THE BLIND

The Round Table on Library Service to the Blind, at its annual business meeting held January 26, made plans for several program meetings to be held during the annual ALA meetings in Chicago in June and in Las Vegas in 1973.

Included in the plans are cooperative programs with the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped and the American Optometric Association on optical aids which are designed to enhance reading for handicapped persons; a plan to cooperate with the Library Administration Division on their program concerning architectural barriers; and the Campbell Awards luncheon at which John Ciardi will be the main speaker.

The 20 or so members present expressed their support and assistance for a pending comprehensive revision by the Association of Hospital and Institutional Libraries of the publication *Reading Aids for the Handicapped*, and also for the proposed updating of standards as they apply to library service for the blind and visually handicapped.

A Publications Advisory Board has been established and an editor is soon to be appointed for the Round Table's biannual publication *News and Views*.

A new brochure designed and printed in cooperation with the Membership Promotion Coordinator of the American Library Association was distributed to the members present. Several proposals for its use in attracting new members to the Round Table were presented to the chairman A. D. Hagle, for consideration. [*Alfred D. Hagle*]

STATISTICS

Frank L. Schick, Library Surveys Branch, U.S. Office of Education, discussed USOE statistical activity during the ALA Midwinter Conference. He noted that approximately 90 percent response had been realized in "1970-71 College and University Survey" and "1970 School Library Survey." He mentioned that the Federal Library Committee would undertake a comprehensive survey of Federal libraries under contract to USOE. [*Frank Kurt Cylke*]